



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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29 JULY 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. Vietnam

Moscow evidently intends to soft pedal the implications of Tuesday's bombing of Soviet-manned missile sites by US aircraft.

So far, the Soviets have studiously avoided any public reference to either the missile sites or the presence of Soviet missile personnel. [REDACTED]

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2. South Vietnam

A US force of three battalions has launched a four-day search-and-destroy operation into a suspect Viet Cong base area which was hit by US bombers yesterday. So far no contact with the Viet Cong has been reported.

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3. USSR

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4. Greece

Athanasiadis-Novas seems to have little chance of winning a vote of confidence. Deputies of the ruling Center Union Party caucused today and reportedly threw the bulk of their support to Papandreou; the Communists will also vote against the government.

The King is still adamant against the return of Papandreou, but he is also reluctant to call for elections. If the government falls, the King will probably turn to Stephanopoulos or some other relatively noncontroversial figure, but in the end, he may be compelled to call on the army to take over.

5. Lebanon

Lebanon has stopped work on the Jordan waters diversion canal. President Hilu, however, has confided to the US ambassador that Lebanon would "have to do something else" on the project to appease Arab opinion.

The decision to stop construction should take the heat off for the short run, but the Israelis will undoubtedly resume their warnings if they detect work beginning in other areas of Lebanon.

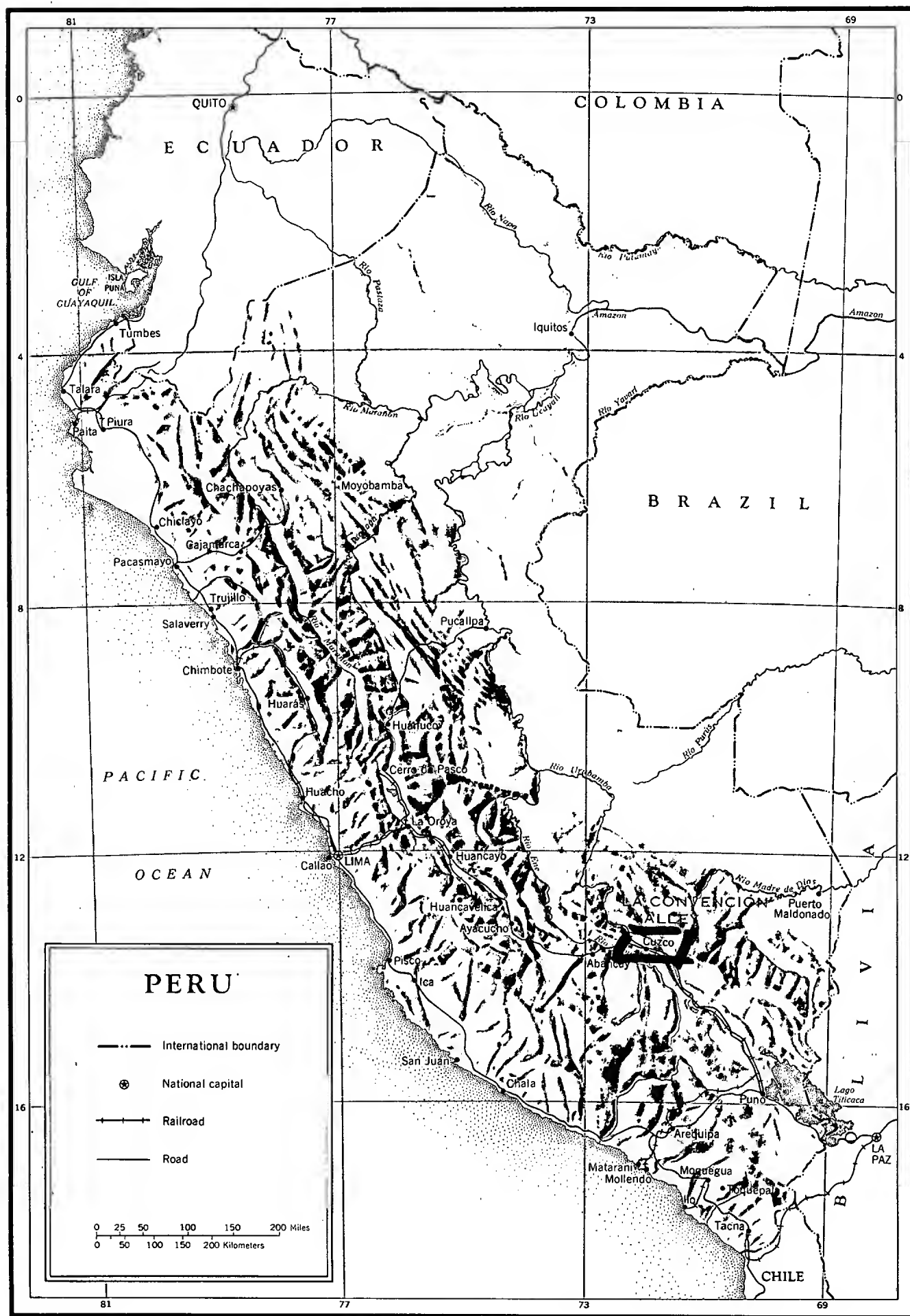
6. Yemen

Nasir sent a personal envoy to Saudi Arabia today for talks on a settlement of the Yemen war.

In a speech last week, Nasir claimed that talks were already under way. He also said that a favorable outcome would lead to the withdrawal of his troops but that lack of agreement might bring an Egyptian-Saudi clash.

The Saudis apparently are not taking this threat seriously.

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7. Congo

Evidence is increasing that President Kasavubu intends to call former premier Adoula back from "exile" to serve as a tool and ally against Tshombé.

The president has suggested that Adoula might become a member of the projected government of "national unity," and Kasavubu may even see Adoula as an eventual new premier.

Adoula

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has railed at Tshombé in public for his "betrayal" of the people and has called for a negotiated settlement of the rebellion and removal of foreign forces.

Tshombé would undoubtedly mount a strong counterattack to Adoula's return, and this could bring on the long-expected showdown with Kasavubu.

8. Dominican Republic

No significant developments were reported today.

9. Peru

Leftist guerrillas now plan to launch attacks in the valleys near Cuzco in southern Peru next month.

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10. Guatemala

Communist guerrillas in Guatemala City are apparently stepping up their terrorist activities.

Last night they attempted to assassinate a leading police official, and a

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number of terrorist actions are planned for this weekend.

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11. President's Statement

There have been no surprises in Communist commentary on the President's press conference.

The Soviet newspaper Izvestia described the military measures announced as "dangerous" and aimed at avoiding a "humiliating failure at any cost"; earlier, Moscow Radio called the President's actions "a colossal risk." An East German Foreign Ministry spokesman said his country would continue to extend "any help desired" to Hanoi, but to talk of sending volunteers would be premature.

The Chinese Foreign Office declined to comment but Peiping Radio later said that no steps the President might take will "save the US from defeat in Vietnam." Radio Hanoi's first comment described the measures as more of the same old American policy carried out on "a larger scale."

All reactions from Communist countries either ignored or minimized the President's statements on negotiations.

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